

Appln. No. 10/038,922

Attorney Docket No. 10541-014

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the examiner's indication that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103 (a)

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 13-15, 25, and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mikiya in view of US 6,167,255 to Kennedy (Kennedy).

Claims 1, 9, 13-15, 25, and 27-29 have been canceled. Claims 4, 6, and 7 depend from claim 3 and are, therefore, patentable for at least the same reasons as given above in support of claim 3.

Claims 2, 8, 16-20, 26, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mikiya in view of Kennedy.

Claims 16-20, 26, and 30 have been canceled. Claims 2 and 8 depend from claim 3 and are, therefore, patentable for at least the same reasons as given above in support of claim 3.



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Claims 5, 10-12, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mikiya in view of Kennedy and further in view of EIA/ITA 232 standard.

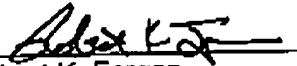
Claims 10-12 and 22-24 have been canceled. Claim 5 depends from claim 3 and is, therefore, patentable for at least the same reasons given above in support of claim 3. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted by,

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